

TOWN OF NEW GLARUS
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2014
AGENDA

ATTENDING: Chris Narveson, Andy Elkins, Dana Emmerton, Chris Reis, Harry Pulliam and Susan McCallum, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Pete Raskovic

ALSO ATTENDING:

CALL TO ORDER: C. Narveson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. Proof of Posting: Deputy Clerk attested to proper posting.
2. Discuss and consider December 12 minutes:
C. Reis moved to approve the December 12, 2013 minutes, 2nd H. Pulliam. Motion carried.
3. Public Comments, possible new member attendance: None.
4. Update: website updates change over, bird watching stations, handouts: No update for website change. S. McCallum informed the commission that the bird blinds have been delivered to the New Glarus lumber yard and she presented pictures of them. There was general discussion on the amount of viewing slots, how to arrange and where to install. H. Pulliam had spoken with John Patterson from the Green-Rock Audubon Society and they walked the BBRC. His recommendation for placement included a barrier behind where a viewer would sit because birds sense movement easily and with the light behind the blind this would be a negative. He also suggested the flat area just south of the Burr Oaks would be the best location. In addition he felt a feeding station would be needed to attract birds, such as a ground feeder. H. Pulliam said he would be willing to come to a future meeting to discuss placement and other birding items. D. Emmerton said she remembers discussion regarding native plantings for bird feeding. It was discussed that a feeding station would require too much maintenance, food costs and consistency. S. McCallum asked the commission if they would consider placing on the February agenda the annual TPE Membership and their annual conference, all agreed. S. McCallum handed out a flier regarding Friends of the New Glarus Woods and asked to put that on next agenda as well, all agreed. She also handed out information regarding public lands being posted to the DNR website including a map of the Town's locations. She felt that this could be a possibility for posting on the website or Facebook page.
5. Discuss:
 - a. Consider tree sales/ordering: C. Narveson felt the total pre-orders at 757 was outstanding. A. Elkins said he ran into a problem with ordering Sycamores, the normal supplier was already out of them. He did find another supplier used by Green County, but they were more expensive, Paint Creek Nursery at \$2 each. The commission approved the change; the sales prices will still cover this increase. Orders are placed with the agreed upon addition of 100% more in each category for same day sales.

There was general discussion to use some of the trees for planting in BBRC to enhance foliage/food for the bird watching stations. A. Elkins suggested keeping this on the next agenda to continue discussions regarding the workshop, all agreed.

- b. Consider Spring workshop: It was discussed what all should take place during the workshop. The discussion included; DNR representative, how to incorporate the donated bat houses, S. McCallum handed out information on the Batcow organization that will do educational programs. It was decided to have the event at the shooting barn, middle or end of April based on tree arrivals, the bat houses would be used as door prizes with entry and have an educational program on bats. Possible dates were discussed but no decision was made as this depends on tree arrivals. Easter (April 20) and Arbor Day (April 25) dates were reviewed and it was decided the First Sunday in May (4) would work the best.
 - c. Consider ice rink: C. Narveson felt that the subject of the joint ice rink should be addressed at the joint meeting tonight because he wants to know if it has been installed this year and/or where the rink materials are presently as the Town has twice paid for the liner (second one due to damage), the Village purchased the socks that encircle the liner. A. Elkins and S. McCallum remembered from last year's joint meeting that it was not going to be put up again due to inconsistent temperatures. C. Narveson would like one of the commission members to ask the village about the liner and installation as he will need to leave before or right after the meeting starts this evening. H. Pulliam noted that the Town Board removed the \$3,000 from the Community Partnership Sinking fund item from the 2013 and future budgets that is to be used for joint capital expenditures.

A. Elkins did not have an update on the ice rink donor due to his schedule during hockey season. C. Narveson asked could we have him attend a meeting after the season is done, all agreed he would be invited to the March meeting.

S. McCallum brought forth an idea for an alternate storage location for Parks Commission items from the Town Patrolman and would like to add this item for the next agenda. All agreed.
 - d. Approve expenditure- New Glarus Bakery: A. Elkins moved to pay the \$15.20, 2nd by D. Emmerton. Motion carried.
6. Schedule Next Meeting and Set Agenda, joint meeting schedule: February 13, 6:30pm
TPE and New Glarus Woods memberships, TPE Annual Conference, Alternate storage area for Parks Commission items, Tree Orders/Workshop/Bat Educational presentation, trail easements,
10. Adjourn: C. Reis moved to adjourn at 6:58 pm, 2nd by H. Pulliam. Motion carried.